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HOUNCE

the g December 1952, Soviet warming Tall was taking an open at the morning station on the north end of the export herby an tige, which was a 2,000 to 3,000 ton ship, with one funnel, two masts and a straight stem: she had a searchinght as the foremast and was carrying the Soviet ear ensign. Another wessel, marked T-038, and a third ressel with a small name plate on her stern were also berthed at the coulding station, The I-038 had one furnel, while the other vessel had two furnels. The vessel with the name plate was an old German torpedo boat, which had superstructures for torpedo mounts but no torpedo amament. The pier and the coaling station were barred and closely guarded during the coaling operation. Following the coaling operation, the warships put out to sea again.

No Soviet warships were seen in the Duena muende harbor basin on 3 and 1h December 1952. Some PT-boats were hauled up on shore.

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Comment: All former German torpedo boats delivered to the USSR were oil-burners. As the reported vessels were taking on coal, the vessel with the name plate ait could not possibly have been a former German torpedo boat.

